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### **USAID/OFDA Quarterly Performance Report**

#### **Restoring livelihoods and health of conflict-affected communities in South-western District, Central African Republic (IDPs, Returnees, and Host Communities)**

Project Dates: Jul 21, 2014 – Jul 31, 2015

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<b>Country/Region:</b>	Central African Republic (CAR) / Lobaye
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<b>Type of Disaster</b>	Recovery from Civil Conflict
<b>Time Period covered by report :</b>	1 October to 31 December 2014

#### **Executive Summary**

This report captures progress against planned activities, Indicators and Objectives from October 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>th</sup> 2014. The main activities completed within the reporting period were:

- Objective 1: Training for 30 WASH committees, technical assessment of WASH infrastructures and hygiene facilities, as well as the selection schools for school-led hygiene and sanitation programme.
- Objective 2: Distribution of vegetable seeds and training on improved agriculture techniques. This training was focused on gardening techniques to prepare the beneficiaries for vegetable garden development, siting, soil conservation techniques, etc.

There have been some operational challenges with significant high turnover among expatriate staff and delays in recruitment of national project staff during 2<sup>nd</sup> first quarter which have affected some activities. The most significant underestimation on budget were discovered and some outputs under objective one (e.g: latrines constructions, boreholes rehabilitation) therefore need to be reduced and budget review carry out and approved.

#### **SECTOR 1: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

**Objective 1:** *To increase access to safe water and sanitation and improve knowledge of good hygiene practice in the Lobaye prefecture.*

During this quarter, the team conducted an identification process. A total of 50 volunteer community hygiene promoters were selected as opposed to 108 initially planned, but will cover the same villages and number of beneficiaries. This was due to budgetary constraints that led to reduction in number of

participants for the training. The 2 hygiene sensitisation campaigns were re-scheduled for Quarter 3 due to lack of time and human resources.

At the same time, teachers in 8 schools were identified in order to develop student-led clubs and facilitation of a student WASH club exchange, to improve knowledge and behaviour regarding hygiene and sanitation throughout the school and catchment area. Initially, 4 schools were targeted. However, there were fewer students and 4 more schools were added to meet the target (5000 school children). School hygiene committees will be created in the next quarter.

In November and December, a technical survey was conducted on broken down boreholes, shallow wells and water sources for repairs or construction. In total, 15 boreholes, 20 shallow wells as well as 1 spring were visited and assessed. This resulted in bills of quantities and design drafts. A call to bid for the construction and rehabilitation of boreholes and shallow wells, as well as the hygiene facilities was advertised at the national level. Three local companies were selected and the selection was submitted to OFDA for approval.

Due to delays in releasing our testing equipment from customs in Bangui Airport we were not able to do the water quality testing in Q2 to establish a baseline. The machine was released in January and is currently being calibrated, so it will be ready to use next week. Tests will be carried out in the first week of February to baseline water quality ahead of water point rehabilitation and construction.

**Table 1: Summary of project activities planned and executed during Quarter 2**

Activity	Progress / Achievements
<b>Sub-sector 1: Sanitation Infrastructure</b>	
Beneficiary Selection	This activity was completed in Q1: 56,438 beneficiaries (51% women): 12,203 are IDPs and 47% women in 79 villages.
School-based Hygiene and Sanitation and Communal Latrines (4 schools)	8 schools were identified but this activity was not completed due to delays of schools re-opening.
School-based Hygiene and Sanitation Training	This activity has not yet started due to delays in schools re-opening
Baseline KAP Survey	Baseline completed by Q1
<b>Sub sector 2. Hygiene Promotion</b>	
Water Safety plans and Water Quality Monitoring	This activity will be carried out in Q3
Establishment of WASH Committees (25)	During quarter 2, training was organised for 30 selected WASH committees. The increase in number of committees from 25 to 30 is due to long distance between communities, meaning we needed more WASH committees to cover smaller areas The training was conducted in December with 310 participants
Water Point maintenance & repair	This activity has been re-scheduled for Q3 after WASH infrastructure construction and repair
Hygiene and Sanitation Media	This activity has been re-scheduled for Q3 after training of community Hygiene promoters
Hygiene Promotion Training (50 promoters in 25 communities)	Priority was given to the formation of 30 WASH committees due to lack of enough staff. However, the selection of the 50 promoters is completed while procurement of Information Education Communication materials (IEC) is ongoing..
<b>Sub Sector 3. Water Supply</b>	
Rehabilitation of Boreholes (15)	In preparation for the construction, the boreholes were technically assessed, BOQs for construction or repair written, and tender for construction was advertised. 1 contractors was selected and the rehabilitation work will begin in Q3, pending approval from OFDA.
Protection of Shallow Wells (20)	In preparation for the construction, the team conducted a technical assessment for 20 shallow wells, BOQs for construction or repair were written, and a tender for construction was advertised. 1 contractors was selected and the activity has

Activity	Progress / Achievements
	been re-scheduled for Q3, pending approval from OFDA.
Training of Pump Mechanics (18)	18 pump mechanics were identified but the training is re-scheduled to take place after the WASH infrastructure construction and repair.

**Table 2: Impact Indicator Progress**

Indicators		Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
<b>Sub-Sector 1 : Sanitation Infrastructure</b>					
Indicator 1	Number of people directly benefitting from the sanitation infrastructure program	0	40000	0	0
Indicator 2	S1: Number of households with no evidence of faeces in the living area	22800	40000	0	0
Indicator 3	S2: Number of people who report proper disposal of faeces the last time they defecated	<b>Total Observed:</b> 24000 <b>Total Reported:</b> 39600	40000	0	0
		<b>Male Observed:</b> 11670 <b>Male Reported:</b> 10404	16400	0	0
		<b>Female Observed:</b> 12240 <b>Female Reported:</b> 20196	20400	0	0
Indicator 4	S3: Number of people who report using a latrine the last time they defecated	<b>Total Observed:</b> 24000 <b>Total Reported:</b> 39600	40000	0	0
		<b>Male Observed:</b> 11670 <b>Male Reported:</b> 10404	16400	0	0
		<b>Female Observed:</b> 12240 <b>Female Reported:</b> 20196	20400	0	0
Indicator 6	S4: Number of clean HH latrines completed.	0	8000	0	0
Indicator 7	S5: Number of people per usable latrine	12	6	0	0
Indicator 8	S6: Number of hand washing facilities in use	200	5000	0	0
<b>Sub-Sector 2 : Hygiene Promotion</b>					
Indicator 1	Number of people receiving direct hygiene promotion (excluding mass media campaigns and without double-counting)	0	50000	0	0
Indicator 2	HP1: Number of respondents who know 3 of 5 critical moments to wash hands	<b>Total:</b> 540	27000	0	0
		<b>Male:</b> 275	13230	0	0
		<b>Female:</b> 265	13770	0	0
Indicator 3	HP2: Number of HH with soap and water (or ash) at a hand-washing location	160	4000	0	0

Indicators		Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
Indicator 4	HP3: Number of households who store their drinking water safely in clean containers (Safe Water Handling)	To be assessed in next quarter	7000	0	0
Indicator 5	HP4: Number of HH drinking water supplies with 0 fecal coli forms per 100 mL sample	To be assessed in next quarter	7000	0	0
Indicator 6	HP7: Number of village water user committees active at least 3 months after training	0	10	10	10
Indicator 7	HP8: Number of water points that are clean and protected from contamination	0	10	0	0
<b>Sub-Sector 3 : Water Supply Infrastructure</b>					
Indicator 1	Number of people directly benefiting from the water supply program	0	45000	0	0
Indicator 2	WS1: Average litres/person/day collected from all sources for drinking, cooking and hygiene	2,9	15	0	0
Indicator 3	WS2: Estimated water supplied per beneficiary in litres per person per day	11	15	0	0
Indicator 4	WS3: Number of test results with 0 faecal coli forms per 100 mL sample	To be assessed in next quarter	90	0	0
Indicator 5	WS5: Number of HH collecting water for drinking, cooking and hygiene from improved water sources	4240	8000	0	0
Indicator 6	WS6: Number of water points which are actively utilizing their Water Safety Plan	0	20	0	0

## **SECTOR 2: Agriculture and Food Security**

### ***Objective 2: Targeted beneficiary households have restored crop production and consumption***

Two week ahead of the scheduled seed distribution, beneficiaries were mobilised to prepare the land for nurseries. VBCs and TF field staff conducted training on agriculture techniques in targeted communities. Field report indicates that 86.48% of beneficiary HH were trained on siting and nursery preparation and 90.48% of beneficiary HH are practicing soil conservation techniques.

The other main activity for this quarter has been the vegetable seed and tools distribution in 78 selected communities and 6 IDP camps. Seeds were procured and samples were sent to ICRA for quality certification. Before distribution, beneficiaries were given the option to choose four different types of vegetable seeds from a range of options. The preference was for: tomatoes, spinach, okra, carrot, cabbage, red onion, cucumber, lettuce, parsley and watermelon. Each HH was able to make a selection of four different types of seeds.

During the first two (2) weeks in October, Tearfund extended the village beneficiary committee to 2 new members whose main role is to manage complaints and feedback mechanism. At the same time, Tearfund undertook a process to finalize validation of the beneficiary list in one remaining commune (Mbata), where new beneficiary households were immediately nominated by community committees who will establish appropriate vulnerability criteria at village level. 94 vulnerable households (IDPs) from Boda were also selected for vegetable seed and tool distributions.

Each selected household received an average of 35.7gr of vegetable and 1 hoe.

**Table 2: Summary of project activities planned and executed during Quarter 2**

Activity	Completion
<b>Sub sector 1: Improving Agricultural Production / Food Security</b>	
Beneficiary Selection and formation of VBCs	This activity was completed in 1st quarter.
Crop and vegetable seeds and tools distribution (2,000HH)	The Tearfund team conducted vegetable seed distributions from 2 <sup>nd</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> December 2014. A total of 1996 HH were assisted with 35.7gr of vegetable seeds each household.
Training on cross-cutting issues (1,000 HH)	This activity did not take place. Priority was given to seed distributions. This will take place early in Q3
Training of VBC and Rural Farmer association (250) on nutritional diversity and techniques of farming	84 committees were trained in Q1. An additional 166 farmers' association representatives will be trained on improved agricultural practices in order to maximize productive benefits from distributed inputs in Q3.
Training of 10 VBCs on income optimization	This has not been completed in this quarter due to delays in staff recruitment and will resume in Q3.

**Table 4: Impact Indicator Progress**

Indicators		Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
<b>Sub-Sector 1 : Improving Agricultural Production/Food Security</b>					
Indicator 1	Projected increase in number of months of food self-sufficiency due to distributed seed systems/agricultural inputs for beneficiary households.	0	5	0	0
Indicator 2	% of the target population who achieve Acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS)	64%	80%	0	0
Indicator 3	Number of people benefiting from seed systems/agricultural input activities, by sex.	0	Total: 10,000	9980	9980
			Male: 4900	5460	5460
			Female: 5100	4520	4560
Indicator 4	Percentage of vegetable seed beneficiary households cultivating vegetable gardens by the end of the project period	0	80%	80%	80%
Indicator 5	Percentage of trained farmers who are applying soil conservation techniques	0	80%	90.48%	90.48%

## BUDGETARY PROGRESS

Overall spending is on track for this quarter. The overall expenditure at the end of Q2 is \$339,527.95 which is 27 % of the total budget.

## CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

### Logistical constraints:

Local government processes delayed the registration of the motorbikes purchased for the project which delayed the implementation of some activities. Bangui airport customs refused to release a water testing kit for one and a half months and they only finally released it on payment of a customs fee in excess of 100% of the cost of the kit. This has delayed the water testing activities that were scheduled for Q2.



## Human Resources:

There have been ongoing challenges in human resourcing. The contracts for the WASH manager and Grants Information officer came to an end and recruitment into these roles has been challenging. A WASH manager is now in place (Jan 2015) for the remainder of the project and a GIO should be joining the team in late February. There have also been some challenges in recruitment of national field staff due to low availability of good skills locally. We expect to have a role of hygiene promotor to support hygiene and sanitation component in Q3.

## Photos

Photo 1&2: Vegetable seed distribution in Mbata commune, Lobaye, CAR

